



Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District

1203 Main Street, Suite B, Morro Bay, CA 93442
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Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Los Osos Creek Wetland Restoration Project

November 2020

The Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District (the District) is preparing a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Los Osos Creek Wetland Restoration Project in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA guidelines 15072). The District is acting as the lead agency for the preparation of this MND pursuant to section 21082.1 of the CEQA guidelines.

Project Location

The Project is located on lower Los Osos Creek at the confluence with Warden Creek, in the Morro Bay watershed, San Luis Obispo County, California. The project occurs on two adjacent APNs: 067-011-048, 067-011-049, both of which are under an Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Wetland Reserve Program conservation easement held by the District. The Project footprint includes 56 acres of wetland and upland habitat within the larger 82-acre parcel owned by the District. The site is positioned in a location where sediment delivered from the Los Osos Creek watershed would naturally deposit prior to entering the Morro Bay estuary, however land use changes and channel modification have disconnected the creek from its natural floodplain and hydrology.

Project Description

The Los Osos Creek Wetland Restoration Project will restore and enhance 40 acres of palustrine wetlands and 16 acres of upland coastal dune scrub habitat at the mouth of the Los Osos Valley. The project will accomplish the following objectives

1. Restore native coastal dune habitat by decommissioning the upland homestead access road and demolishing existing upland infrastructure.
2. Improve fish passage by removing three perched culverts and managing invasive vegetation.
3. Reconnect and protect historic floodplain and wetland habitat and reduce sediment loads into Morro Bay by breaching portions of the levee constricting Warden Creek, decommissioning a domestic well, and realigning power lines.

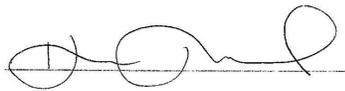
The Project will enhance and protect habitat for a number of sensitive species including Southern California steelhead, California redlegged frogs, Morro manzanita, Morro shoulderband snail, Tidewater goby, and Marsh sandwort.

Submission of Comments

The District invites the views and comments from the public as to the scope and content of the project and associated MND. Responses to this notice should be sent at the earliest possible date, but not later than December 13th.

Please send responses to:

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email: hrichard@coastalrcd.org



Signature

November 9, 2020
Date